

IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

Claim 1 (currently amended): A network device managing apparatus for monitoring and managing a network device based on processing first display information of the network device and second display information linked from the first display information, said apparatus comprising:

first receiving means for receiving a request for transmitting the first display information required for displaying first management information of a device;

transmitting means for transmitting, by executing a first process invoked by the request received by said first receiving means, the first display information;

extracting means for extracting link information embedded in the first display information after said first receiving means receives the request for transmitting the first display information;

~~receiving means for receiving an instruction to be used for displaying information based on the second display information corresponding to the link information extracted by said extracting means;~~

specifying means for specifying, by executing the first process, second management information of the network device by using template data which describe a plurality of pieces of management information required to display the second display information linked from the first display information, wherein the second display information includes the second management information which differ from the first

management information included in the first display information of the network device,
and the first and second management information are a part of information for indicating
details of the network device;

acquiring means for acquiring, from the network device specified by the link information extracted by said extracting means, by executing the first process, the ~~plurality of pieces of~~ second management information specified by said specifying means ~~before said receiving means receives the instruction to display the second display~~ information;

second receiving means for receiving an instruction to be used for
displaying information based on the second display information including the second
management information acquired by said acquiring means;

generating means for generating output information corresponding to the second display information to prepare for displaying the acquired second management information of the network device in a web page of a predetermined form based on the received instruction; and

transferring means for transferring, to a predetermined communication link, by executing a second process invoked in accordance with the instruction received by said
second receiving means, the output information generated by said generating means.

Claim 2 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the management information is information in an MIB form.

Claim 3 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said generating means generates the output information based on data, which includes an HTML format for defining the predetermined form, and a management information item of the device.

Claim 4 (original): The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said generating means generates the output information in an HTML format.

Claim 5 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising output means for outputting the output information.

Claim 6 (previously presented): The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising output means for displaying the output information in accordance with a URL.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A network device managing method for use in monitoring and managing a device on a network, by using a predetermined network management protocol and processing first display information of the network device and second display information linked from the first display information, said method comprising:

a first receiving step of receiving a request for transmitting the first display information required for displaying first management information of a device;

a transmitting step of transmitting, by executing a first process involved in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step, the first display information;

an extracting step, of extracting link information embedded in the first display information after the request for transmitting the first display information is received in said first receiving step;

~~a receiving step, of receiving an instruction to be used for displaying information based on the second display information corresponding to the link information extracted in said extracting step;~~

a specifying step, of specifying, by executing the first process, second management information of the network device by using template data which describe a plurality of pieces of management information required to display the second display information linked from the first display information, wherein the second display information includes the second management information which differ from the first management information included in the first display information of the network device, and the first and second management information are a part of information for indicating details of the network device;

an acquisition step, of acquiring, from the network device specified by the link information extracted in said extracting step, by executing the first process, the plurality of pieces of second management information specified in said specifying step before the instruction to display the second display information is received in said receiving step;

a generation step, of generating output information corresponding to the second display information to prepare for displaying the acquired second management information of the network device in a web page of a predetermined form based on the received instruction;

a second receiving step of receiving an instruction to be used for displaying information based on the second display information including the second management information acquired in said acquiring step; and

a transfer step, of transferring, to a predetermined communication link, by executing the second process invoked in accordance with the instruction received in said second receiving step, the output information generated in said generation step.

Claim 8 (original): The method according to claim 7, wherein the management information is information in an MIB form.

Claim 9 (previously presented): The method according to claim 7, wherein the output information generated in said generation step is generated based on data, which includes an HTML format for defining the predetermined form, and a management information item of the device.

Claim 10 (previously presented): The method according to claim 7, wherein the output information generated in said generation step is generated in an HTML format.

Claim 11 (previously presented): The method according to claim 7, further comprising an output step of outputting the output information.

Claim 12 (previously presented): The method according to claim 7, further comprising a display step of displaying the output information in accordance with a URL.

Claim 13 (currently amended): A computer-readable ~~storage~~ medium storing a program for monitoring and managing network devices by using a predetermined network management protocol and processing first display information of the network device and second display information linked from the first display information, the program comprising:

a code for a first receiving step of receiving a request for transmitting the first display information required for displaying first management information of a device;

a code for a transmitting step of transmitting, by executing a first process invoked in accordance with the request received in said first receiving step, the first display information;

a code for an extracting step, of extracting link information embedded in the first display information after the request for transmitting the first display information is received in said first receiving step;

~~a code for a receiving step, of receiving an instruction to be used for displaying information based on the second display information corresponding to the link information extracted in said extracting step;~~

a code for a specifying step, of specifying, by executing the first process,
second management information of the network device by using template data which
describe a plurality of pieces of management information required to display the second
display information linked from the first second management information which differ
from the first management information included in the first display information of the
network device, and the first and second management information are a part of information
for indicating details of the network device;

a code for an acquisition step, of acquiring, from the network device
specified by the link information extracted in said extracting step, by executing the first
process, the second ~~plurality of pieces of~~ management information specified in said
specifying step ~~before the instruction to display the second display information is in said~~
~~receiving step;~~

a code for a second receiving step of receiving an instruction to be used for
displaying information based on the second display information including the second
management information acquired in said acquiring step;

a code for a generation step of generating output information corresponding
to the second display information to prepare for displaying the acquired second
management information of the network device in a web page of a predetermined form
based on the received instruction; and

a code for a transfer step, of transferring, to a predetermined communication
link, by executing a second process invoked in accordance with the instruction received in
said second receiving step, the output information generated in the generation step.

Claims 14-22 (canceled).